



The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- December 7, 2011
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Latest News

SAB Urges EPA To Refocus 'Value of Water' Study On Regional Differences

EPA's science advisers are urging the agency to refocus its planned study on the value of water on differences in the way regions across the country consider water valuation, saying the agency's current plan to examine valuation based on industry sectors may overlook key regional issues -- such as droughts -- that play a major role in how value is assessed.

Activists, Texas Spar Over Increases To State's Air Transport Rule Credits

Environmentalists are sparring with Texas and state-based utilities over EPA's proposal to boost Texas' emissions credits for the agency's cap-and-trade rule to cut transport of power plants' air pollution, with activists saying the move could unnecessarily boost the state's emissions while Texas counters that it needs far more credits to protect grid reliability.

Activists Oppose GOP Bid To Delay EPA Boiler MACT With Payroll Tax Bill

Environmentalists are fighting planned riders to a pending House bill to extend the payroll tax cut that would stall EPA's proposed revisions to its boiler air toxics rule for two years and separately force an expedited Obama administration decision on approving the proposed Keystone XL pipeline to bring tar sands oil from Canada to the United States.

DOD, Industry Seek EPA Guide To Help Avoid Strict Cancer Risk Approach

Industry and Defense Department (DOD) officials are stepping up calls for EPA to provide guidance on what conditions must be met before the agency will step away from its use of conservative linear modeling of cancer risks in its chemical assessments, a policy that may force the agency to adopt strict risk values in a host of pending assessments.

EPA Cites Legal Constraints To Using Permits For Compliance Schedules

Latest Blogs

High Court Weighing 'Navigability'

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments Dec. 7 in a case that could allow the justices to rule on the tests necessary . . .

Activists Seek EPA Role In Fracking Case

Environmentalists are urging EPA to intervene in a state appeals board suit on behalf of Pennsylvania citizens suing Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation over natural . . .

Opposing Ozone Suit Coordination

EPA and industry are opposing activists' bid for a federal appeals court to coordinate a lawsuit over President Obama's decision to scrap a tighter EPA . . .

Obama Vows To Veto 'REINS' Act

President Obama is threatening to veto a pending House bill that would require Congress to approve economically significant new rules from EPA and other agencies . . .

U.S. Optimism On Climate Fund

U.S climate envoy Todd Stern is expressing optimism that negotiators at international climate talks this week can reach agreement on basic ground rules for implementing . . .

CHARLESTON, SC -- EPA officials say case law may prevent the agency from solely using Clean Water Act permits to establish long-term compliance schedules for infrastructure upgrades, forcing the agency to rely also on consent decrees or other enforcement actions to allow municipalities to undertake infrastructure projects sequentially as part of its integrated permitting approach.

EPA Outlines Expectations For Wastewater Utilities To Win Permit Flexibility

CHARLESTON, SC -- EPA officials say they expect wastewater utilities to assess existing infrastructure, perform a financial capabilities analysis and set milestones before they can sign prioritization agreements with the agency under its pending integrated permitting framework, which aims to allow utilities to prioritize water infrastructure requirements.

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